

# FAMILY VIOLENCE

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## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

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### A CONRAD N. HILTON FOUNDATION PROJECT

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*The Model Code on Domestic and Family Violence (Model Code)* is the result of a three-year project, funded by the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, which analyzed state legislation on family violence and developed a comprehensive model code to address family violence issues facing communities across the country. Since its publication in 1994, the *Model Code* has been distributed to and used by many organizations and individuals in the public arena who are seeking legislative and policy solutions to the problem of family violence.

The Hilton Foundation's interest and involvement in reducing and preventing

family violence has not ended with the development of the *Model Code*. The Foundation continues to provide funding to ensure that professionals working in the area of family violence in every state are aware of the *Model Code*, to assist with implementation of the *Model Code*, to document legislative changes in states, and to provide annual updates of new state family violence legislation for those working in the fields of family violence and legislation.

This publication is the ninth annual update and addresses the year 2003 legislative changes made by the states in the area of family violence.

National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges

Hon. David B. Mitchell, Executive Director





**FAMILY VIOLENCE**  
LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

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**Family Violence Database Available**

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Thanks to continued financial support from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, the Family Violence Department of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (National Council) has been able to maintain and update its family violence statutes database. This database contains all domestic violence-related statutes from the 50 states, District of Columbia, and many U.S. Territories, and is updated as legislation is added, deleted, or amended in each jurisdiction's legislative sessions.

The database was developed in

conjunction with the *Model Code on Domestic and Family Violence*, and may be helpful for persons interested in researching a particular area of the law that addresses family violence. The Family Violence Department not only maintains the database but also has staff available to provide information on existing state statutes that deal with domestic-violence-related topics. Individuals can access the database directly through the department's website at [www.ncjfcj.org/dept/fvd](http://www.ncjfcj.org/dept/fvd), or can request information from staff members on existing state legislation.

National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges



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**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

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# FAMILY VIOLENCE

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

### INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

by Billie Lee Dunford-Jackson and Maureen Sheeran

The 2003 legislative session saw the passage of many statutes that will help battered women and their children remain safe. This year focused on confidentiality and easing the burden that victims of domestic violence often face when they attempt to relocate. Many states made it easier for a victim of domestic violence to escape, either by keeping her address confidential, or by allowing her to change her name without publishing the notice. Some states recognized the need to have time off from work to relocate or otherwise address the issues of domestic violence and created protections for employees. But the logistical obstacles were also accounted for. Many states recognized that sometimes a victim of domestic violence must leave her job, and these states have prohibited disqualification of unemployment benefits if the applicant can show she is a victim of domestic violence. This age of technology has also made it easier for some people to commit the crime of stalking, either through a computer or even without the victims' knowledge. Both of these situations were addressed this year. This is also an increasingly mobile society, and many states addressed the issue of full faith and credit of orders of protection or passed the Uniform Interstate Enforcement of Domestic Violence Protection Orders Act. Finally, tenants' rights became a focus for some states, as did some other innovative and creative legislation, such as preventative education.

#### CONFIDENTIALITY

Continuing the trend from the 2002

legislative sessions, nine states enacted a variety of statutes designed to increase confidentiality afforded to victims of domestic violence. This was accomplished mainly through providing confidentiality of otherwise-public records, most notably through Nebraska's Address Confidentiality Act. In Arizona and Nebraska, the voting records of a victim of domestic violence are no longer accessible to the general public. California and Nebraska keep drivers license applications and vehicle registration information confidential if the applicant can show he or she is a victim of domestic violence. Missouri and Texas now provide for the confidentiality of certain information ordinarily required on protection order petitions. For example, Missouri permits a petitioner to exclude his or her social security number from the document, while Texas provides that the entire application for an order of protection is confidential and exempt from public disclosure in counties of 3.4 million or more. Nevada and North Dakota both passed legislation permitting a court to waive the public notice of a name change if the petitioner can show that such publication would endanger his or her safety. Virginia now provides that, in spousal support orders where there are no minor children involved in the former marriage, the former spouse may keep all identifying information confidential if the party is found to be at



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## INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

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risk of physical or emotional harm from the other party. Texas also provides that domestic violence victims' home addresses are confidential via the Tax Code if the perpetrators were convicted of a felony or a Class A misdemeanor. And finally, Florida provides that the names, addresses, and phone numbers of address confidentiality program participants are included in the public records exemption.

### CUSTODY AND VISITATION

Two states passed legislation easing the burden of a victim of domestic violence who wishes to relocate. Alabama now exempts domestic violence victims from the notification of relocation requirement upon a finding that the health, safety, or liberty of a parent or child would be endangered. Alabama further provided for an exception to the otherwise rebuttable presumption that there should be no change of residence for a child when there is domestic violence present.

In contested relocation matters in Louisiana, courts shall now consider whether there is a history of domestic violence. Mississippi revised its custody statute to include a rebuttable presumption that it is not in the best interests of a child to award custody to a perpetrator of domestic violence. Mississippi also requires its courts to make written findings to document how and why the presumption was or was not triggered, and how and why the presumption was or was not rebutted. Texas passed comprehensive legislation detailing specific measures to combat

international child abduction, including identified risk factors. Finally, Montana now requires social workers in child protective services who find that a child is in danger because of domestic violence to take affirmative steps to protect the child, including preventing the removal of the child from the victim of domestic violence and making reasonable efforts to remove the perpetrator from the home.

### WORKPLACE

Six states continued the trend from the 2002 Legislative sessions by passing legislation protecting employees not only from violence in the workplace but from losing their jobs. Hawaii and Illinois passed comprehensive victim leave statutes, which provide for extended leaves of absence for victims of domestic violence and permit victims to attend court hearings, get legal or psychological help, relocate, etc. without losing their jobs or otherwise being discriminated against. Indiana, Kansas, and South Dakota all require that victims of domestic violence not be disqualified from receiving unemployment benefits if they leave their job, either voluntarily or are discharged, based on circumstances caused by domestic violence. Indiana and Kansas also now require training for state employees who will be assessing unemployment claims that may stem from domestic violence circumstances. Indiana will also now track how many claims are filed



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## INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

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relating to domestic violence. Finally, South Carolina requires state agencies to adopt workplace domestic violence policies that must include a zero tolerance policy.

### FULL FAITH AND CREDIT

Eight states recognized the increasingly mobile nature of our society and passed statutes dealing with the full faith and credit of out-of-state orders of protection. Alabama, Nebraska, and North Dakota all passed their state's version of the Uniform Interstate Enforcement of Domestic Violence Protection Orders Act. Arkansas deleted its former requirement that foreign orders be registered in Arkansas. California and Idaho removed the former provisions that prohibited enforcement of the support provisions in foreign protection orders. Louisiana provides that, if a foreign order of protection is registered in Louisiana, the clerk shall no longer be required to mail a copy to the respondent, and the address of the petitioner may remain confidential. South Dakota passed legislation providing for enforcement of, and procedures attendant to, foreign protection orders.

### STALKING

Eight states provided for increased protection for victims of stalking, either through civil protection orders or by increased criminal penalties. Alaska, California, and Montana provide for protection orders similar to those given to domestic violence victims for victims of stalking. Delaware deleted the requirement for a stalking offense that a victim be aware he or she is being stalked and expanded the definition. Similarly, Maryland clarified its stalking statute to expand the circum-

stances under which the intent requirement would be met. Florida and Ohio include cyberstalking in their offenses. Finally, Hawaii deleted its previous distinction between petty misdemeanor harassment by stalking and misdemeanor harassment by stalking, leaving all harassment by stalking offenses as misdemeanors.

### FIREARMS

Four states increased their firearms protection laws for victims of domestic violence. Indiana now prohibits a person convicted of the crime of domestic violence from possessing a firearm upon his or her release from imprisonment. Maine now specifically questions applicants for permits to carry concealed weapons whether they are currently subjected to an order of protection and, if so, disqualifies them from obtaining a permit. Minnesota increased its prohibition on possession, shipping, receiving, or transporting firearms from 10 years to a lifetime ban for harassment and stalking offenders. Finally, North Carolina now requires that a respondent surrender all firearms upon the issuance of an emergency or *ex parte* order and further provides that the sheriff may charge a reasonable fee for the storage of weapons.



### INCREASED PENALTIES

Six states increased their criminal penalties regarding domestic violence offenses. Arkansas provides for enhanced penalties for domestic violence committed

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## INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

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against a pregnant woman. California now requires a hearing before a defendant in a violation of a protection order matter can be released on bail or on his or her own recognizance. Georgia now permits violations of protection orders to be punished criminally and not just through criminal contempt proceedings. Illinois now mandates the enforcement of protection orders in criminal court under certain conditions. Louisiana removed the spousal exception from crimes of simple rape and sexual battery. And Nevada provides for additional penalties for committing a felony while violating a protection order.

### OTHER TRENDS AND ISSUES

As is true every year, some legislatures stepped outside the traditional box and enacted some innovative, creative, or more comprehensive legislation to increase further the safety of domestic violence victims. Arkansas now permits employees and volunteers of domestic violence shelters and programs to file for protection orders. California now requires the Department of Housing and Community Development to track the terminations of tenancies and of Section 8 housing vouchers based on incidents of domestic violence. Georgia now requires that petitioners and respondents in protection order hearings be provided with foreign language or sign language interpreters for the hearing. Georgia also mandated that the State Board of Education develop a domestic violence curriculum to prevent teen dating violence for grades eight through 12. Illinois passed the Gender Violence Act, creating a civil cause of action to victims of gender-related violence.

Maine now permits courts to order the cancellation of life insurance policies as part of a protection from abuse order. New Jersey permits the Board of Education to include instruction on domestic violence in the curriculum of elementary, middle and high schools. Texas now provides law enforcement personnel and courts with exact and unambiguous protocols for what to do when presented with conflicting orders of protection. Texas also gave tenants the precise right to summon assistance for domestic violence, provided that any lease provision that purports to waive that right is null and void, and provided for damages if the landlord violates the section.



### OUR DEEPEST APPRECIATION

Once again we extend our deepest appreciation and thanks to everyone who is working so hard to end domestic and family violence in all families. Although we have made every effort to ensure the accuracy of this document, we receive information almost daily. Please accept our sincere apology for any errors or omissions. We would appreciate having these brought to our attention.

## 2003 STATE LEGISLATION\*

STATE	Definitions	Criminal Penalties & Procedures	Civil Orders For Protection
Alabama			X
Alaska			X
Arizona	X		
Arkansas		X	X
California		X	X
Colorado			
Connecticut		X	
Delaware		X	
Dist. of Columbia			
Florida	X	X	X
Georgia		X	X
Hawaii		X	X
Idaho			X
Illinois		X	X
Indiana	X	X	
Iowa			
Kansas			
Kentucky			
Louisiana	X	X	X
Maine		X	X
Maryland		X	
Massachusetts			
Michigan			
Minnesota			
Mississippi		X	X
Missouri			X

\* This chart represents legislation which was passed during the 2003 legislative sessions only and includes some states' continuing efforts in these subject areas. It is not a cumulative chart and does not include laws enacted in prior legislative sessions.



Family & Children	Prevention & Treatment	Miscellaneous
X		
		X
X		X
X		X
	X	
		X
X		X
		X
		X
X		
	X	
X	X	

## 2003 STATE LEGISLATION\*

STATE	Definitions	Criminal Penalties & Procedures	Civil Orders For Protection
Montana	X	X	X
Nebraska			X
Nevada		X	X
New Hampshire			
New Jersey			
New Mexico			
New York			X
North Carolina	X		X
North Dakota		X	X
Ohio		X	
Oklahoma			
Oregon		X	
Pennsylvania			
Rhode Island			
South Carolina	X	X	
South Dakota			X
Tennessee			
Texas		X	X
Utah		X	X
Vermont			
Virginia		X	X
Washington			
West Virginia			
Wisconsin			
Wyoming	X		X

\* This chart represents legislation which was passed during the 2003 legislative sessions only and includes some states' continuing efforts in these subject areas. It is not a cumulative chart and does not include laws enacted in prior legislative sessions.



Family & Children	Prevention & Treatment	Miscellaneous
X	X	
X		X
X		X
	X	X
	X	
	X	
		X
		X
X		
	X	X
		X
X		X
X		X
		X

## 2003 LEGISLATIVE TRENDS\*

STATE	Considerations for Confidentiality of Information	Enhanced Penalties Against or Protection for Stalking	Employment & Unemployment Benefits Protection	Firearm Prohibition or Restrictions
Alabama				
Alaska		X		
Arizona	X			
Arkansas				
California	X	X		
Colorado				
Connecticut				
Delaware		X		
District of Columbia				
Florida	X	X		
Georgia				
Hawaii		X	X	
Idaho				
Illinois			X	
Indiana			X	X
Iowa				
Kansas			X	
Kentucky				
Louisiana	X			
Maine				X
Maryland		X		
Massachusetts				
Michigan				
Minnesota				X
Mississippi				

This chart represents legislation which was passed during the 2003 legislative sessions only and includes some states' continuing efforts in these subject areas. It is not a cumulative chart and does not include laws enacted in prior legislative sessions.

UCCJEA or UIEDVPA	Prohibition Against Filing or Service Fees for Orders of Protection	Fatality Review Teams	Enhanced Criminal Penalties	Full Faith & Credit
X	X			
			X	
				X
			X	X
			X	
			X	
	X			
			X	
	X		X	
				X
X	X		X	
		X	X	
	X		X	
			X	

## 2003 LEGISLATIVE TRENDS\*

STATE	Considerations for Confidentiality of Information	Enhanced Penalties Against or Protection for Stalking	Employment & Unemployment Benefits Protection	Firearm Prohibition or Restrictions
Missouri	X			
Montana		X		X
Nebraska	X			
Nevada	X			
New Hampshire				
New Jersey				
New Mexico				
New York				
North Carolina				X
North Dakota	X			
Ohio		X		
Oklahoma				
Oregon			X	
Pennsylvania				
Rhode Island				
South Carolina				
South Dakota			X	
Tennessee				
Texas	X			
Utah				
Vermont				
Virginia	X			
Washington				
West Virginia				
Wisconsin				
Wyoming				

\* This chart represents legislation which was passed during the 2003 legislative sessions only and includes some states' continuing efforts in these subject areas. It is not a cumulative chart and does not include laws enacted in prior legislative sessions.

UCCJEA or UIEDVPA	Prohibition Against Filing or Service Fees for Orders of Protection	Fatality Review Teams	Enhanced Criminal Penalties	Full Faith & Credit
		X		
X				
X			X	
X			X	X
			X	
			X	
X				
			X	
				X
			X	
			X	
			X	
		X		
	X			

# ALABAMA



## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, with different starting times depending on the year. The Alabama constitution limits sessions to 30 legislative days within 105 calendar days.

## **ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

§ 30-5-5, pertaining to the Protection from Abuse Act, is amended to eliminate the requirement for a filing fee and other fees associated with proceedings related to seeking, registering, issuing, and servicing an order of protection.

The Alabama Uniform Interstate Enforcement of Domestic-Violence Protection Orders Act is created, which specifies the process for judicial and nonjudicial enforcement of foreign protection orders. The Act, among other things, states:

- the court shall enforce the terms of a valid foreign protection order, including terms that provide relief that a court of Alabama would lack power to provide but for this Act;
- the court shall enforce the provisions of a valid foreign protection order which govern custody and visitation, if the order was issued in accordance with the jurisdictional requirements governing the issuance of custody and visitation orders in the issuing state;
- the factors necessary to provide for the validity of a foreign protection order, including noting that a foreign protection order valid on its face is prima facie evidence of its validity;
- the prerequisite factors necessary for the validity and enforceability of mutual foreign protection orders—namely, that the respondent must have filed a written pleading seeking an order of protection from the issuing state, and the tribunal made specific findings in favor of the respondent;
- law enforcement officers shall enforce the foreign order of protection as if it were an order of the state of Alabama;
- presentation to a law enforcement officer of a protection order that identifies both the protected person and the respondent and, on its face, is currently in effect, constitutes



# ALABAMA

probable cause to believe that a valid foreign protection order exists;

- registration of the order is not required for the enforcement of a valid foreign protection order; and
- should the protected party choose to register the order, the order shall be entered as expeditiously as possible into the State Judicial Information System, which shall in turn enter it into the National Crime Information Center database.

## **FAMILY AND CHILDREN:**

The Alabama Parent-Child Relationship Protection Act is created, which requires notification to a parent when the principal residence of a person entitled to custody of or visitation with a child is to be changed. However, the Act provides that:

- the term relocate or relocation does not include temporary absence from the primary residence or an absence necessary to escape domestic violence;
- on a finding by the court that the health, safety, or liberty of a parent or a child would be at risk by the disclosure of identifying information otherwise required under the Act, the court may order that the specific address and telephone number, or any other identifying information of the person or child shall not be disclosed, and that the notice requirements be waived; and
- when determining whether a proposed or actual change of principal residence of a minor child should cause a change in custody, the court shall consider evidence relating to a history of domestic violence or child abuse.

The Alabama Parent-Child Relationship Protection Act further provides that there shall be a rebuttable presumption that a change of principal residence of a child is not in the best interests of the child, unless there has been a determination that the party objecting to the change of the principal residence of the child has been found to have committed domestic violence or child abuse.

# ALASKA



## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January and normally ending in May.  
There is a statutorily imposed 120-calendar day limit on the number of days the legislature may meet in regular session.

## **ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

§ 18.65 is amended by adding § 18.65.850, which provides for stalking protection orders and notifications for stalking victims. The stalking protection order allows for people who reasonably believe they are a victim of stalking, but in circumstances that do not constitute a crime involving domestic violence, to file a petition for a stalking protection order.

§ 18.65 is further amended by adding § 18.65.855 providing for *ex parte* and emergency protection orders for stalking.

§ 18.65.860 provides for modification of stalking protection orders, while § 18.65.865 provides for service of process, forms for petitions, fees, warnings, and notifications. Specifically, § 18.65.865 provides that:

- service of the stalking protection order shall follow the same procedures as the domestic violence protection order;
- the Alaska Court System shall prepare pre-printed forms with instructions for petitioners of stalking protection orders;
- filing fees may not be charged for stalking protection orders;
- each form must contain the warning that violation of the order may be a misdemeanor punishable by up to one year of incarceration and a fine of up to \$5,000; and
- the Department of Public Safety shall develop and make available to law enforcement agencies in the state a notice that details the rights of victims of stalking and services available to them, similar to the form for domestic violence victims.



# ARIZONA

## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January and normally ending in April.

## **DEFINITIONS:**

§ 12-2239 is added to title 12 to provide for privileged communication between a domestic violence victim advocate and a domestic violence victim. The privilege does not extend to cases in which the domestic violence victim advocate has a duty to report non-accidental injuries and physical neglect of minors. The section further provides that, for the purposes of this section, a domestic violence victim advocate is an employee or volunteer at a domestic violence shelter or service provider for victims of domestic violence and who meets the section's training requirements.

## **MISCELLANEOUS:**

§ 16-153 is amended to provide for further confidentiality to victims of domestic violence through their voting records. Victims of domestic violence may now request that their records be inaccessible to the general public by stating that they are victims of domestic violence and by submitting supporting documentation, including any findings from court, police reports, medical records, child protective services records, domestic violence shelter records, and school records.

# ARKANSAS



## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Biennially. The session starts the second Monday in January of odd numbered years and normally lasts until March. Special sessions are sometimes held in even numbered years.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 5-26-310 is amended to provide that the court may require a defendant in a domestic violence action, upon pleading guilty or *nolo contendere*, to reimburse any shelter or other entity providing services to the victim. Furthermore, if the defendant maintains the home in which the abuse occurred, and the victim will continue to incur lodging costs, the defendant may be ordered to continue to provide remuneration for the victim's lodging.

§ 5-26-303(b) is amended to enhance the penalty for domestic violence committed on a pregnant woman. Committing domestic violence against a pregnant woman is included in the prerequisites for domestic battering in the third degree and is a Class D felony.

## **ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

§ 9-15-302 regarding full faith and credit of orders of protection is amended by deleting the requirement that foreign orders of protection be registered. The section is further amended by providing that:

- local law enforcement shall enter the order into the Arkansas Crime Information Center protection order registry file after receiving a copy of the order;
- law enforcement shall not notify the party against whom the order has been issued that an out-of-state order of protection has been entered in Arkansas;
- entry of the order in the Arkansas Crime Information Center is not required for enforcement of the order; and
- a law enforcement officer shall determine if probable cause



# ARKANSAS

exists to believe that an out-of-state order exists and may rely upon the statement of any person protected by the order that it exists and verification by the clerk of the court of the other state, the Indian tribe, or the territory in writing, by telephone, by facsimile, or by other electronic means.

§ 9-15-134 is amended to provide for the offense of violation of an out-of-state order of protection.

§ 9-15-201 is amended to expand the persons authorized to file for an order of protection. The new provisions allow employees or volunteers of domestic violence shelters or programs to file for orders of protection.

# CALIFORNIA



## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually. Technically, the biennial session starts the first Monday in December of even-numbered years and adjourns *sine die* on midnight, November 30 of the next even-numbered year.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES:**

§ 273.5 of the Penal Code is amended to state that any person convicted of felony domestic violence within seven years of a conviction for misdemeanor domestic violence shall be punished with two, three, or four years in state prison or one year in county jail, a fine of up to \$10,000, or both.

Existing law states that a person charged with a non-domestic violence misdemeanor may appear at the initial court appearance by counsel, but that defendants charged with domestic violence must be present in court for arraignment and sentencing. § 977 of the Penal Code is amended to expand those situations in which a person accused of a misdemeanor offense involving domestic violence would be required to be present to include any times during the proceeding to be informed by the court of the conditions of a protection order.

§ 1270.1 of the Penal Code is amended to add violation of a domestic violence protection order to the list of crimes, the commission of which requires that a hearing must be held before release on bail in an amount other than that specified in the schedule of bail for the offense or on one's own recognizance. Violation of a protection order is included on the list if the detained person made threats to kill or harm, engaged in violence against, or visited the residence or workplace of, the protected party.

## **CIVIL ORDERS OF PROTECTION:**

§ 6401 of the Family Code is amended to expand the definition of protection orders by including orders issued under antistalking laws.



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§ 6402 of the Family Code is amended by removing previous provisions prohibiting enforcement of a provision of a foreign protection order with respect to support.

## **FAMILY AND CHILDREN:**

§ 3044 of the Family Code is amended to provide that, for the purposes of determining the best interests of a child, the state's preference for frequent and continuing contact with both parents, as specified in §§ 3020 and 3040, may not be used to rebut the presumption against the award of custody to a perpetrator of domestic violence. The code is further amended by additionally requiring the court to consider, when determining whether the presumption has been overcome, whether the perpetrator is on probation or parole, whether the perpetrator is restrained by a protection or restraining order, and whether the perpetrator has complied with the terms and conditions of the protection or restraining order.

§ 3044 is further amended by modifying the list of factors that a court must consider when weighing the risk of abduction, one of which is whether the party has taken steps such as quitting a job, terminating a lease, applying for a passport, etc. This bill added as a factor under steps taken whether a party has purchased an airplane ticket or other travel tickets, specifically making clear that the court must consider whether these arrangements are made by a party carrying out a safety plan to flee from domestic violence. The bill also clarified some admitted confusion by noting that "it is vital to clarify that the act does not affect the applicability of Section 278.7 of the Penal Code, which protects victims of domestic violence and their children."

## **MISCELLANEOUS:**

§ 1808.21 of the Vehicle Code is amended to expand the category of those eligible to have their drivers license or registration information suppressed from other persons to include

# CALIFORNIA



victims of domestic violence and stalking program participants under the Secretary of State's confidentiality program. The bill allows for a four-year suppression period.

§ 4467 of the Vehicle Code is amended to include victims of stalking in the Department of Motor Vehicle's mandate that it shall issue new and different license plates immediately upon request to the registered owner of a vehicle who appears in person and shows, for example, a copy of a police report or other court record documenting the stalking.

§ 34328.1 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to provide that the required report filed by the Department of Housing and Community Development detailing its activities during the previous year include specified information on terminations of tenancies of victims of domestic violence from housing authority units. The report shall also include terminations of Section 8 vouchers of victims of domestic violence.



# CONNECTICUT

## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually. In odd-numbered years, sessions start in January and normally end in June. In even-numbered years, sessions start in February and normally end in May.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 54-63c is amended by providing that no police officer shall set the terms and conditions of a person's release, set a bond for a person, or release a person from custody without first checking the National Crime Information Center database.

§ 46b-38c is amended to provide for notice of criminal penalties for violating an order of protection to be printed on the order. The order must contain language that states that "any violation of this order constitutes criminal violation of a protection order which is punishable by a term of imprisonment of not more than five years, a fine of not more than five thousand dollars, or both."

# DELAWARE



## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January and ending in June.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 1312A, Delaware's stalking statute, is amended by deleting the requirement that a victim be aware that she is being stalked, explicitly recognizing that some of the most dangerous stalking occurs without the victim's knowledge. The section is amended to specify that anyone who engages in a course of conduct which would cause a reasonable person to fear physical or emotional injury is sufficient. Moreover, the section added fear of damage to property or fear that his or her employment, business, or career is threatened also rises to the level of stalking. The section makes clear that no person shall be convicted under this section for contacting someone's place of employment or business regarding a bona fide business dispute.

§ 1312A is further amended to increase penalties where the victim of stalking is a child under the age of 14 and the perpetrator is over the age of 21 to a Class F felony.



# FLORIDA

## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in March. Sessions normally last for 60 calendar days.

## **DEFINITIONS:**

§ 784.048, Florida's stalking statute, is amended to include a definition of cyberstalking.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 784.048, is amended to provide that someone who cyberstalks commits the offense of aggravated stalking, a felony of the third degree.

§ 784.048 is further amended to add as stalking prerequisites the victim's child, sibling, spouse, parent, or dependant as objects of threats with the intent to place in reasonable fear.

## **ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

§ 784.046 is amended to prohibit the clerk of the court from assessing a fee for filing a petition for protection against repeat violence, sexual violence, or dating violence.

## **FAMILY AND CHILDREN:**

§ 39.8296 creates the Statewide Guardian *Ad Litem* Office within the Justice Administrative Commission. The office is directed to develop a guardian *ad litem* training program, and to include on the curriculum committee a representative of the Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

# FLORIDA



## **MISCELLANEOUS:**

§ 741.465 is amended to create the public records exemption for the Address Confidentiality Program for Victims of Domestic Violence. The statute provides that names, addresses, and telephone numbers of participants are exempt from public disclosure, except that the information may be used by a law enforcement agency for purposes of assisting in the execution of an arrest warrant or, if directed by court order, to a person identified in the order.



**LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January and lasting 40 legislative days, normally ending in mid-March.

**CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 16-5-95 is amended to create the new offense of violating a family violence order. Nothing in that section would prohibit a prosecution for the offense of stalking or aggravated stalking that arose out of the same course of conduct; however, for the purposes of sentencing, a violation of this section shall be merged with stalking violations.

§ 19-13-6 is amended to increase criminal penalties for a violation of a protection order by providing that, in addition to criminal contempt, the violation may be punished criminally.

**ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

§ 15-6-77 is amended to mandate that a petitioner seeking a temporary order of protection or a respondent to such order shall be provided with a foreign language or sign language interpreter when necessary at the hearing on the petition.

§19-13-53 is amended to clarify the courts' use of standardized forms for the issuance of any protection order. The act is further amended by providing that the sheriff's department is responsible for validating all National Crime Information Center protection order entries, and shall also respond to and confirm "hit" confirmation requests based upon the records maintained in the sheriff's office.

§ 19-13-4 is amended to increase the duration of a protection order from six months to one year; however, the court may, in its discretion, and upon a motion by the petitioner and notice to the respondent and after a hearing, convert a temporary order to an order effective for not more than three years or to a permanent order.

# GEORGIA



**PREVENTION AND TREATMENT:**

§ 20-2-314 is amended to mandate that the State Board of Education shall develop, with input from such experts as family violence shelter personnel, a program for preventing teen dating violence for grades eight through 12.



**LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January and normally ending in April.

**CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 711-1106.4 is amended to clarify that the offense of aggravated harassment by stalking is committed if a person commits the offense of harassment by stalking and has been previously convicted of harassment by stalking, deleting the requirement that the previous conviction involve the same victim.

§ 711-1106.5 is amended to delete from harassment by stalking the requirement that the course of conduct be under circumstances that would cause the victim to reasonably believe that the actor intends to cause bodily injury to the victim or another, or damage to the property of the victim or another. The requirement is replaced by a finding that the course of conduct occurs on more than one occasion without legitimate purpose.

§ 711-1106.5 is further amended by deleting the distinction between harassment by stalking as a misdemeanor if the perpetrator harasses another person by stalking on more than one occasion for the same or similar purpose, versus a petty misdemeanor for a single occurrence. All harassment by stalking offenses are now misdemeanor crimes.

**ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

§ 607 is added, exempting a person subject to abuse by a family or household member, stalking, or sexual assault from filing fees and court costs in connection with the filing, issuance, registration, or service of a protection order.

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

Chapter 378 is amended by adding a new part, entitled Victims Leave. § 378-A (definitions) and § 378-B provides for a leave of

# HAWAII



absence for domestic or sexual violence victims. The new part specifies that:

- an employer employing 50 or more employees shall allow an employee to take up to thirty days of unpaid leave from work per calendar year if that employee or the employee's minor child is a victim of domestic or sexual violence;
- an employer employing no more than 49 employees shall allow an employee to take up to five days of unpaid leave from work per calendar year for the same conditions;
- the leave must be to seek medical attention; to obtain services from a victim services organization; to obtain psychological or other counseling; to relocate temporarily or permanently; or to take legal action, including preparing for or participating in any civil or criminal legal proceeding related to or resulting from the domestic or sexual violence; and
- the employer may request that the employee provide a certificate from a health care provider estimating the number of leave days necessary and, prior to the employee's return, a medical certificate from the employee's attending health care provider attesting to the employee's condition and ability to return to work.



**LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January and normally ending in March.

**ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

§ 39-6306A is amended to delete the section that previously stated that a tribunal in Idaho may not enforce a provision of a foreign protection order with respect to support.

# ILLINOIS



## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January and normally ending in May.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

725 ILCS 5/112-23 and 725 ILCS 60/223 are amended to remove discretion from the court and mandate that a violation of any order of protection, whether it be issued in a civil or quasi-criminal setting, be enforced in criminal court when certain conditions are met, including when the respondent commits the crime of violation of a protection order and when the respondent commits the crime of child abduction.

## **ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

750 ILCS 60/202 is amended to expand the provision that no fee shall be charged by the clerk not only for filing but for amending, vacating, certifying, or photocopying petitions or orders of protection, as well as issuing alias summons or for any related filing service.

## **FAMILY AND CHILDREN:**

750 ILCS 36/101 *et seq.* is created to provide for the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act and to repeal the former Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction Act.

## **CIVIL PROCEDURE:**

740 ILCS 82/1 *et seq.* creates the Gender Violence Act, which establishes a civil cause of action to any person who has been subjected to gender-related violence. Complainants may bring a civil action for damages, injunctive relief, or other appropriate relief against a person or persons perpetrating the gender-related violence. The law specifically states that it is enacted based on recent national studies showing that women continue to be harmed by gender-related violence such as domestic violence.



# ILLINOIS

## **MISCELLANEOUS:**

225 ILCS 10/4.2 is amended to provide that, as of January 1, 2004, no new applicant and, on the date of licensure renewal, no current licensee may operate or receive a license to operate, no person may be employed by, and no adult person who has been convicted of committing or attempting to commit felony domestic battery may reside in a child care facility.

820 ILCS 180/1 *et seq.* creates the Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act. Modeled after the Federal Family and Medical Leave Act, VESSA prohibits employers who employ 50 or more employees from discharging, discriminating, or retaliating against employees who are victims of domestic violence or whose family member or household member is a victim of domestic violence. It also offers victims of domestic violence up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave per year to allow the employee to:

- seek medical attention for the employee or his or her family members;
- obtain services from a victim services organization for the employee or his or her family members;
- obtain psychological or other counseling for the employee or his or her family members;
- participate in safety planning, temporarily or permanently relocate, or engage in other actions to increase the safety of the employee or family member; or
- seek legal assistance, including preparing for or participating in any civil or criminal legal proceeding derived from the domestic violence.

The employer may require the employee to provide certification that the employee or a member of the employee's family or household member is a victim of domestic violence and that the leave is for one of the purposes outlined above. However, the

# ILLINOIS

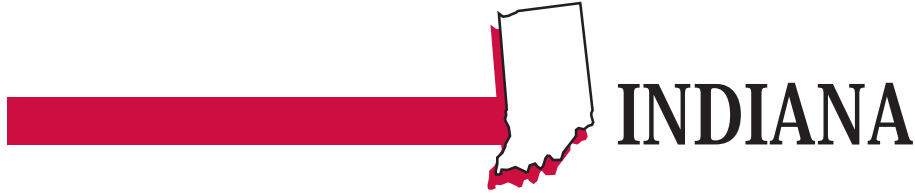


certification requirement is met if the employee:

- provides the employer with a sworn statement attesting to the facts, and
- upon obtaining such documents as police or court records, records from a victim services agency, or other corroborating evidence, provides them to the employer.

VESSA provides that, upon returning from leave, the employee is entitled to be restored to the position of employment held when the leave commenced or to be restored to an equivalent position with equivalent pay, benefits, and terms and conditions of employment.

Finally, VESSA prohibits discrimination against an employee because the employee exercised any right provided under the Act or opposed any practice made unlawful by the Act.



**LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, for one day in November, then convenes in January. Sessions normally end by April 29 in odd-numbered years and by March 14 in even-numbered years.

**DEFINITIONS:**

§ 35-41-1-10.6 is added to provide for an expanded definition of family or household member.

§ 35-42-2-1.3 is amended to include in the provisions for domestic battery specific and expanded factors courts shall consider when determining whether the parties were living as spouses.

**CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 35-33-1-1 is amended to provide that a law enforcement officer may arrest a person whom the officer has probable cause to believe is interfering with or preventing the reporting of a crime involving domestic or family violence.

§ 3-7-13-5 is amended to provide that a person convicted of the crime of domestic violence may not possess a firearm upon release from imprisonment and that the person may not petition the court for restoration of the right to possess a firearm sooner than five years following the conviction.

§ 3-7-13-5 enumerates specific factors the court shall consider upon receiving a petition when determining whether to restore the person's right to possess a firearm, including whether the person has been subject to a protection order, a no contact order, or a workplace violence restraining order.

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

§ 12-18-8-1 *et seq.* creates a new chapter, which allows a county or group of counties to establish a domestic violence fatality review team to investigate a homicide or suicide that may have resulted from domestic violence.

# INDIANA



§ 22-4-15-1 is amended to state that a person is not subject to disqualification of unemployment compensation if the person left his or her job voluntarily or was discharged because of circumstances directly caused by domestic or family violence. A person who applies for benefits must verify that domestic or family violence occurred by providing a report of a law enforcement agency, a protection order, a foreign protection order, or an affidavit from a domestic violence service provider verifying services were provided to the person.

§ 22-4-18-1 is amended to mandate that the department of workforce development establish, implement, and maintain a training program on the nature and dynamics of domestic and family violence to train all employees of the department who interact with potential unemployment benefits claimants and who will screen the claims regarding terminations based on domestic violence.



### **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually. Sessions start in January and normally last for 125 to 145 calendar days.

### **MISCELLANEOUS:**

§ 44-706 is amended to provide that an individual shall not be disqualified from employment security benefits for leaving work because of circumstances resulting from domestic violence, including:

- the reasonable fear of future domestic violence at or en route to or from the person's place of employment;
- the need to relocate to avoid future domestic violence;
- the need to address the physical, psychological, or legal impacts of domestic violence;
- the need to leave employment as a condition of securing services at a domestic violence shelter; or
- the reasonable belief that termination of employment is necessary to avoid other situations which may cause domestic violence and to provide for the future safety of the individual or his or her family.

A victim may prove the existence of domestic violence through a variety of avenues provided in the statute.

§ 44-706 is further amended to add a section mandating that the secretary of human resources implement a training curriculum for employees who will interact with claimants for employment security benefits; this curriculum shall be approved by the state domestic violence and sexual assault coalition.

§ 44-706 is further amended to add a section providing that no contributing employer shall be charged with respect to benefits paid to a claimant who is eligible to receive employment security benefits because of domestic violence.

# LOUISIANA



## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually. The annual session, for odd-numbered years, starts the last Monday in March and usually lasts until June. In even-numbered years, the session begins the last Monday in April and is limited to specific fiscal topics.

## **DEFINITIONS:**

§ 46:2151 is added to provide for a definition of dating violence.

§ 46:1842 is amended to include dating partners in the definition of victim of domestic violence.

## **FAMILY AND CHILDREN:**

§ 9:355.12 is amended to include as factors that courts shall consider when determining contested relocation any history of violence by either parent and consideration of the severity of such conduct.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

C.Cr.P.Art. 327.1 is amended to consider dating violence when issuing a Uniform Abuse Prevention Order in connection with a bail restriction.

C.Cr.P.Art. 335.1 is amended to include dating partners as victims when the court considers the threat to the victim while determining conditions of release.

C.Cr.P.Art. 871.1 is amended to include dating violence in potential orders sent to the Louisiana Protective Order Registry.

C.Cr.P.Art. 895 is amended to include, when a court considers conditions of probation, offenses involving dating violence and to order compliance with court-approved courses of counseling or therapy related to dating violence as conditions of probation.



# LOUISIANA

§ 46:2140 is amended to direct law enforcement officers to use all reasonable means to prevent the further abuse of dating partners when the officer has reasonable cause to believe that the partner has been abused.

§ 14:79 is amended to provide that any law enforcement officer can serve a certified copy of a restraining order on a defendant and that a defendant will be deemed properly served if tendered a certified copy of the order by any officer who has been called to any scene where the defendant is present; such service of a previously issued temporary restraining order or *ex parte* protection order, if noted in the police report, shall be deemed sufficient evidence of service of process and is admissible in any civil or criminal proceedings.

§§ 14:43 and 14:43.1 are amended to remove the spousal exceptions from the crimes of simple rape and sexual battery.

§ 46:2143 is amended to authorize the use of electronic monitoring in conjunction with temporary restraining orders, protection orders, preliminary or permanent injunctions, sentence, bail conditions, etc. in cases of domestic violence, but only where the victim has consented to its use.

§ 14:79.2 is added to create the offense of tampering with electronic monitoring equipment.

§ 14:35.3 is added to create the offense of domestic abuse battery, and to provide for definitions, criminal penalties, and other related matters. The statute provides for additional penalties when a minor child under the age of 12 is present.\*

## **ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

C.C.P.Art. 3607.1 is amended to expand the scope of protection orders to include victims of family and household members or dating partners.

# LOUISIANA

C.C.P.Art. 3610 is amended to clarify that, while ordinarily a temporary restraining order or preliminary injunction shall not issue unless the applicant furnishes security in the amount fixed by the court, no security is required when the applicant is seeking protection from domestic abuse, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault.

C.Cr.P.Art. 29 is amended to provide that an applicant for a peace bond who is seeking protection from domestic abuse, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault shall not be required to prepay court costs or cost of service or subpoena for the issuance of a peace bond.

§ 9:366 is amended to provide for expeditious filing and transmission of Abuse Prevention Orders contained in separation, divorce, child custody, and child visitation orders in family violence cases. The statute mandates that the order be entered into the Louisiana Protective Order Registry no later than the end of the next business day after the order is filed with the clerk of the court.

§ 13:4248 is amended to provide that, when filing a foreign order of protection, the address of the petitioner may remain confidential. The section is further amended by deleting the provision requiring that the clerk mail a copy of the registered order to the respondent.

§ 46:2135 is amended to provide that courts may award a party use and possession of any jointly owned or leased property, not “community” property.

§ 46:2136 is amended to provide that, in granting relief in any protection order, the relief may include granting possession to the petitioner of the residence or household to the exclusion of the defendant, and by evicting the defendant or restoring



# LOUISIANA

possession to the petitioner where the residence is solely owned by the defendant and the petitioner has been awarded the temporary custody of the minor children born of the parties.

\* Some domestic violence experts recommend working within the parameters of existing laws rather than enacting new legislation that may be more beneficial to prosecutors and law enforcement than to the child witnesses they are seeking to protect. Further, the ramifications of such legislation for victims and their children remain uncertain.

# MAINE



## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually. The annual session starts in December following the November election in an even-numbered year and normally ends in June of the odd-numbered year. The next session starts in January of the even-numbered year and ends in April of that year.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 1175 of title 17-A is amended to include stalking victims in the category of those persons who must receive notice of the defendant's unconditional release.

## **ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

§ 4007 of title 19-A is amended to allow a court to order the cancellation of a life insurance policy as part of a protection from abuse order.

## **PREVENTION AND TREATMENT:**

§ 2003 of title 25 is amended to include as a criterion for issuing a permit to carry a concealed firearm the condition that the applicant not be disqualified from possessing a firearm based on having a protection order issued against him and other requisite findings.

§ 2003 of title 25 is further amended by adding to the list of questions asked of applicants for licenses to carry a concealed firearm whether the person is currently subject to an order that restrains the person from harassing, stalking, or threatening his intimate partner or his intimate partner's child, or from engaging in conduct that would place his intimate partner in reasonable fear of bodily injury to the partner or child.



# MAINE

§ 4006 of title 19-A is amended to specify that a court may direct the defendant not to possess a firearm or other dangerous weapons for the duration of a temporary protection order if the complaint demonstrates that the abuse involved a firearm or that there is a heightened risk to the plaintiff or a minor child.

§§ 4006 and 4007 of title 19-A are amended to provide that the court shall direct the defendant, within 24 hours after being served with a protection order or such earlier time as the court specifies in the order, to relinquish all firearms and any other specified dangerous weapons to a law enforcement officer or other individual for the duration of the order.

# MARYLAND



## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January and ending in April.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 3-802 is amended to clarify the specific intent requirement in the crime of stalking to state “where the person intends to place or knows or reasonably should have known the conduct would place another” in reasonable fear, rather than “intended to place” another in reasonable fear.



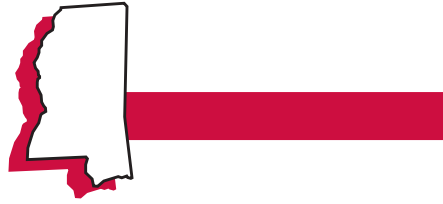
**LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually. In odd-numbered years, the session starts in January and normally ends in May. In even-numbered years, the session starts in January or February and ends in March or April.

**PREVENTION AND TREATMENT:**

§§ 242.31, 260B.245, and 609.165 are amended to extend the prohibition of possessing, shipping, receiving, or transporting a firearm for offenders who committed specified violence offenses from 10 years to a lifetime ban. The criminal offenses include harassment and stalking.

# MISSISSIPPI



## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January and normally ending in April.

## **ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

§ 93-21-21 is amended to provide that a person who knowingly violates a domestic abuse protection order is guilty of a misdemeanor and that violators shall be held in contempt or punished for a misdemeanor.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 93-21-21 is further amended to provide that a law enforcement officer is authorized to arrest, with or without an arrest warrant, a person who knowingly violates a domestic abuse protection order.

## **FAMILY AND CHILDREN:**

§ 93-5-24 is amended to create a rebuttable presumption that it is not in the best interests of the child to be placed in the custody of an abusive parent, and providing that the court shall make written findings to document how and why the presumption was or was not triggered.



# MISSOURI

**LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January and ending in May.

**ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

§ 455.030 is amended to provide that a petitioner shall not be required to provide his or her Social Security number on any petition or document filed in connection with a protection order; however, the court may require that the petitioner's Social Security number be retained on a confidential case sheet or other confidential record.

# MONTANA



## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January and normally ending in April.

## **DEFINITIONS:**

§ 45-5-220 is amended to include acts involving use of electronic communication among acts that constitute stalking.

## **ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

§§ 40-15-402 and 40-15-403 are amended to include injunctions or other court orders under sexual assault and stalking laws in the definition of “protection order” for purposes of the Uniform Interstate Enforcement of Domestic Violence Protection Orders Act.

§ 40-4-121 is amended to provide that the parties to a divorce or separation in which a temporary injunction is sought must be informed by the court at the hearing on the injunction that it might limit or result in limits on one or both parties’ rights relating to firearms under state and federal law.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 46-7-102 is amended to provide that the judge shall inform a defendant that a conviction may result in the loss of various rights regarding firearms under state and federal law.

## **FAMILY AND CHILDREN:**

§ 41-3-102 is amended to provide for a definition of psychological abuse or neglect to mean severe maltreatment through acts or omissions that are injurious to a child’s well-being, including the commission of acts of violence against another person residing in the home; however, the act is further amended to state that the term may not be construed to hold a victim responsible for failing to prevent the crime against the victim.



# MONTANA

§ 41-3-301 is amended to provide that, if a social worker in child protective services determines in an abuse or neglect investigation that the child is in danger because of domestic violence occurring in the household, the department shall take appropriate steps to protect the child, which may include preventing the removal of the child from the victim of domestic violence, making reasonable efforts to remove the perpetrator of the domestic violence from the home, and ensuring that the child is not placed in unsupervised visitation with the perpetrator.

**PREVENTION AND TREATMENT:**

§ 2-15-2017 is enacted to establish a domestic violence fatality review commission within the Department of Justice.

§ 45-5-206 is amended to provide that assessment and counseling for a person convicted of partner or family member assault must include a focus on controlling behavior.

# NEBRASKA



## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January. The session lasts for 90 legislative days in odd-numbered years, ending in May, and for 60 legislative days in even-numbered years, ending in April.

## **ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

§ 42-932 *et seq.* creates the Uniform Interstate Enforcement of Domestic Violence Protection Orders Act.

## **FAMILY AND CHILDREN:**

§ 43-1226 *et seq.* creates the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act.

## **MISCELLANEOUS:**

§ 42-1201 *et seq.* adopts the Address Confidentiality Act, which creates a program designed to allow persons escaping actual or threatened abuse, stalking, and sexual assault to keep their addresses confidential.

§ 32-331 is amended to provide that voters may petition the election commissioner to have his or her address and telephone number remain confidential based upon participation in the Address Confidentiality program.

§§ 60-484 and 60-4,144 are amended to provide that program participants under the Address Confidentiality Act are exempt from providing residential addresses in an application for an operator's license or commercial driver's license.

§ 60-4,181 is amended to provide that program participants under the Address Confidentiality Act are exempt from providing residential addresses in an application for a state identification card.



# NEVADA

## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Biennially, starting in February of odd-numbered years and lasting 120 calendar days.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 33.070 is amended to provide that a law enforcement officer may make an arrest for violation of an order of protection with or without a warrant and regardless of whether the violation occurs in the officer's presence.

§ 193.166 is adopted to provide for additional penalties for committing a felony in violation of an order for protection.

## **ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

§ 33.035 is amended by providing that, if a court issues an extended order for protection which includes an order for the support of a minor child, the court shall order an assignment of income in certain circumstances.

§ 33.065 is amended to provide for additional service options for protection orders when the address of the adverse party is unknown.

## **FAMILY AND CHILDREN:**

§ 125A.005 *et seq.* is adopted to create the revised Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act.

## **CIVIL PROCEDURES:**

§ 50.400 is adopted to provide that, in any civil action involving a victim of domestic violence, the victim is permitted to designate any person to act as an attendant during the proceedings. The attendant is not required to possess any special training, is permitted to stay in close proximity to the victim, and shall not provide any legal advice. Any action taken by the attendant in accordance with the section shall not constitute the unauthorized practice of law.

# NEVADA



## **MISCELLANEOUS:**

§ 41.280 is amended to provide that the publication of documents relating to a name change may remain confidential if the applicant submits proof that the publication would place his or her personal safety at risk.

§ 49.2546 is created to provide for the privileged communication between a victim of domestic violence or sexual assault and her advocate.



**LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting the second Tuesday in January and normally lasting the entire year.

**PREVENTION AND TREATMENT:**

§ 18A:35-4.23 is created to provide that the Board of Education may include instruction on the problems of domestic violence and child abuse in an appropriate place in the curriculum of elementary, middle, and high school students.

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

§ 17:29 is amended to supplement the existing provision that prohibits insurance companies from discriminating against victims of domestic violence.

# NEW MEXICO



## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January and lasting until late March in odd-numbered years and until late February in even-numbered years.

## **PREVENTION AND TREATMENT:**

§§ 34-15-1 and 31-12-11 are added to provide that district, metropolitan, and magistrate courts shall impose a “domestic violence offender treatment fee” of \$5 for persons convicted of a penalty assessment misdemeanor, traffic violation, petty misdemeanor, misdemeanor, or felony offenses.



# NEW YORK

**LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January. The session lasts all year, but the majority of work is done by July.

**ORDERS OF PROTECTION:**

§ 842 of the Family Court Act is amended to extend the duration of a protection order from one year to two years and from three to five years upon a finding by the court on the record that the conduct alleged in the petition is in violation of a valid order of protection.

# NORTH CAROLINA



## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January and normally ending in July.

## **DEFINITIONS:**

§ 50B-1 is amended to clarify the definition of protection orders by specifically including consent orders.

## **ORDERS OF PROTECTION:**

§ 50B-3 is amended to provide that a court may renew a protection order, including an order that had been previously renewed, for no more than one year. The court may renew the order for good cause; the commission of an act of violence after the entry of the current order is not required for an order to be renewed.

## **PREVENTION AND TREATMENT:**

§ 50B-3.1 is amended to require the defendant to surrender to the sheriff all firearms, machine guns, ammunition, and permits to purchase firearms or to carry concealed weapons upon the issuance of an emergency or *ex parte* order of protection if certain conditions are met. The judge may also order the surrender of firearms upon the service of a protection order.

§ 50B-3.1 is further amended to provide that the sheriff may charge the defendant a reasonable fee for the storage of any firearms and ammunition taken pursuant to a protection order.

§ 50B-3.1 is further amended to provide that the defendant may request the return of firearms no later than 90 days following the expiration of the order; the court shall schedule a hearing and shall notify the petitioner in writing of the hearing and the right to be heard.



# NORTH DAKOTA

## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Biennially, starting in January of odd-numbered years and normally lasting until April.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 14-07.1-06 is amended to delete the penalty differential between violations of home-state orders of protection and foreign orders of protection.

§ 12.1-17-13 is adopted to mandate completion of a domestic violence offender treatment program for offenses against an actor's family or household member.

§ 29-01-16 is amended to provide that a misdemeanor may be compromised when the person injured by the act constituting the offense has a civil remedy, except if the offense involves a crime of domestic violence.

## **ORDERS OF PROTECTION:**

§ 14-07.4-01 *et seq.* is added to enact the Uniform Interstate Enforcement of Domestic Violence Protection Orders Act.

## **MISCELLANEOUS:**

§ 32-28-02 is amended to provide that a court may waive publication of the notice of a name change when the petitioner offers satisfactory evidence to the court that the petitioner has been the victim of domestic violence.

# OHIO



## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January. Sessions generally end in July in odd-numbered years and in June in even-numbered years.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 2919.25 is amended to provide that if a defendant to a domestic violence offense previously pleaded guilty to or has been convicted of two or more offenses of domestic violence, the new offense is either a felony of the third degree or a misdemeanor of the first degree depending on the circumstances.

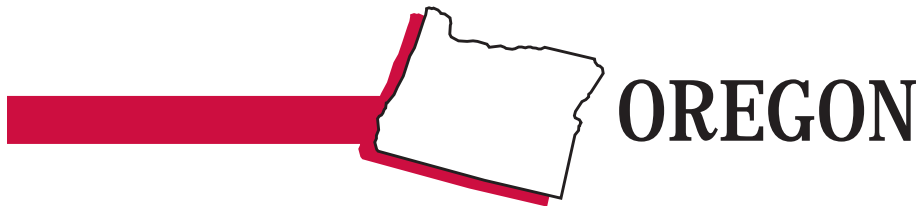
§ 2919.26 is amended to expand the authority for the issuance of a criminal domestic violence temporary protection order.

§ 2919.27 is amended to provide that, if an offender violates a protection order or consent agreement while committing a felony offense, the violation of the protection order is a felony of the third degree.

§ 2903.211 is amended by expanding the offense of menacing by stalking to prohibit posting computer-related messages with the intent to urge or incite a person to stalk another illegally and specifically to include electronic communication as a pattern of conduct under that crime.

## **MISCELLANEOUS:**

§ 109.42 is amended to provide that the Attorney General shall prepare a pamphlet regarding victim rights and shall include the rights of victims of domestic violence to seek the issuance of a temporary protection order.



**LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Biennially, starting in January of odd-numbered years and normally ending in June or July.

**CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURES:**

§ 135.230 is amended to provide that when a crime involves domestic violence, the prosecution may prove at trial domestic violence as an element of the crime; when a crime is so pleaded, the words “constituting domestic violence” may be added to the title of the crime.

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

§§ 659A.190 through 659A.198 are added to provide for employment protection for victims of crime. The new sections provide that, subject to certain conditions, a covered employer who denies leave to an eligible employee or who discharges, threatens to discharge, intimidates, or coerces because the employee takes leave to attend a criminal proceeding commits an unlawful employment practice.

# RHODE ISLAND



## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January and ending in late summer or early fall.

## **FAMILY AND CHILDREN:**

§ 15-5-16.2 is amended to provide that the court may appoint a guardian *ad litem* to represent the interests of a child in a divorce proceeding, and who may assist in providing information regarding allegations of domestic violence.

§ 15-14.1-1 *et seq.* is adopted and creates the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act.



**LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January and generally ending in June.

**DEFINITIONS:**

§§ 16-25-10 and 20-4-20 are amended to revise the definition of household member.

**CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 16-1-60 is amended to include domestic violence of a high and aggravated nature as a violent crime.

§ 16-25-20 is amended to revise penalties for subsequent criminal domestic violence offenses committed within ten years.

§ 16-25-20 is further amended to establish a mandatory 90-day minimum sentence for persons convicted of more than two criminal domestic violence offenses within ten years.

§ 16-25-65 is amended to specify the elements of criminal domestic violence of a high and aggravated nature, to make this offense a felony, and to provide that the punishment for this offense is imprisonment for not more than ten years.

§ 16-25-70 is amended to require that a law enforcement agency investigate an allegation of criminal domestic violence even if the agency was not notified at the time of the violation.

§ 17-22-50 is amended to provide that a person charged with a criminal domestic violence offense must not be considered for pretrial intervention if that person had previously been convicted of such an offense.

# SOUTH CAROLINA

## **PREVENTION AND TREATMENT:**

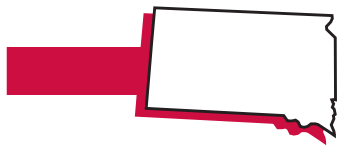
§ 59-1-475 is adopted to mandate that the Department of Education and the South Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault develop guidelines and materials for continuing education concerning domestic violence; each school district shall adopt a curriculum for teachers and appropriate staff.

§ 20-7-3080 is adopted to require that the Department of Social Services make staff training on domestic violence available to childcare facility owners and operators.

## **MISCELLANEOUS:**

§ 1-1-1410 is adopted to require all state agencies to develop and implement an agency workplace domestic violence policy that must include a zero tolerance policy statement regarding acts or threats of domestic violence in the workplace and safety and security procedures.

§§ 59-20-40 and 59-63-31 are amended to provide for funding and authorization for students who reside in an emergency shelter to attend school in the district where the shelter is located.



# SOUTH DAKOTA

## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January and ending in mid-March in odd-numbered years and in late February in even-numbered years.

## **ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

§§ 25-10-12.1 through 25-10.12.5 are enacted to provide for the enforcement of foreign domestic violence protection orders, including procedures for enforcement.

## **MISCELLANEOUS:**

§ 61-6-13.1 is amended to make leaving employment because of domestic violence “good cause” for unemployment benefit purposes; certain conditions, such as reporting the abuse and leaving—and staying separated from the abuser—apply.

# TENNESSEE



## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January and lasting for approximately 45 legislative days ending in May.

## **FAMILY AND CHILDREN:**

§§ 36-2-311 and 36-5-101 are amended to require the court to consider any demonstrated history of domestic violence toward the mother when considering awarding child and medical support retroactively to the date of the child's birth.

§ 36-5-101 is amended to include transitional alimony as a possible alimony option, specifying that transitional alimony may be incorporated into orders of protection.

## **MISCELLANEOUS:**

§ 29-13-108 is amended to add that, in addition to being physically unable to do so, good cause for failure to report a crime for victim compensation purposes shall also include that the complainant is a victim of a sex offense or domestic abuse.



# TEXAS

## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Biennially, starting in January in odd-numbered years and ending in May.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 22.07 of the Penal Code is amended to provide increased penalties for making a terroristic threat if the offense is committed against a family or household member or otherwise constitutes family violence.

§ 411.081 of the Penal Code is amended to provide that a person is not entitled to petition the court for an order of nondisclosure of criminal history records, based on being placed on deferred adjudication community supervision, if the person had been previously convicted or placed on deferred adjudication for any other offense involving family violence.

§ 38.112 is added to the Penal Code to create the offense of violation of a protection order issued on the basis of sexual assault.

§ 17.292 of the Penal Code is amended to provide for clarification of potentially conflicting orders of protection issued at commitment and bail proceedings. The section specifies that if the criminal order conflicts with a protection order issued pursuant to the Family Code, the conditions imposed by the Family Code protection order prevail. If the criminal order conflicts with a temporary *ex parte* order issued pursuant to the Family Code, the criminal order prevails, unless the court issuing the temporary *ex parte* order is informed of the existence of the criminal order and makes a finding in the order that the court is superseding the criminal court order.

# TEXAS

§ 17.292 of the Penal Code is further amended to provide that an order for emergency protection issued at a commitment and bail proceeding may be modified by the issuing court only if the court finds that the modification will not place the victim at greater risk than did the original order, and the modification will not in any way endanger a person protected under the order.

§ 14.03 of the Code of Criminal Procedure is amended to add the provision that a peace officer may arrest, without a warrant, persons whom the peace officer has probable cause to believe have prevented or interfered with an individual's ability to place an emergency phone call, even if the offense is not committed in the presence of the peace officer.

## **ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

C.C.P. Art 7A.01 *et seq.* is added to the Code of Criminal Procedure to provide that victims of sexual assault may apply for protection orders, regardless of the relationship between the applicant and the alleged offender, and to provide for procedures associated with the applications and orders.

§ 82.010 is added to the Family Code to provide that, in counties with a population of 3.4 million or more, an application for a protection order is confidential and excepted from required public disclosure.

## **FAMILY AND CHILDREN:**

§ 153.004 of the Family Code is amended to provide that, in determining whether there is credible evidence of a history of or pattern of physical or sexual abuse by a parent directed against the other parent, a spouse, or child, the court shall consider whether a protection order was issued against the parent during a two-year period prior to the filing of the suit for conservatorship or right of possession or access to a child.



# TEXAS

§§ 153.501 through 153.503 are added to the Family Code establishing the necessity of measures to prevent international parental child abduction, providing for abduction risk factors, and establishing abduction prevention measures.

## **MISCELLANEOUS:**

§ 51.007 of the Human Resources Code is amended to provide for the confidentiality of information relating to a particular family violence center location, a board member of the center, or a person working at or receiving services through a family violence center.

§ 25.025 of the Tax Code is amended to provide for the confidentiality of home address information for victims of family violence if the act of family violence resulted in a conviction of a felony or a Class A misdemeanor.

§ 92.015 is added to the Property Code to provide for tenants' rights to summon police or emergency assistance. The new section provides that a landlord may not limit a tenant's right to summon police in response to family violence or impose monetary penalties on the tenant, and further provides that any lease provision that purports to waive these rights is void. The section also provides for civil damages, attorneys fees, injunctive relief, actual damages, and court costs against landlords who violate this section.

# UTAH



## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January. Sessions are limited to 45 calendar days.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§ 77-20-1 is amended to provide that a person arrested for a violation of a criminal protection order issued after an arrest for domestic violence may not be released prior to the accused's first judicial appearance.

## **ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

§ 78-3H-101 *et seq.* is added to provide for procedures and process for obtaining child protection orders.



# VIRGINIA

## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January. Sessions run for 60 days in even-numbered years and generally for 45 days in odd-numbered years.

## **CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE:**

§§ 16.1-253.2 and 18.2-60.4 are amended to provide that upon conviction for a violation of a protection order or stalking protection order, the court shall, in addition to the sentence imposed, enter a protection order for a period not exceeding two years from the date of conviction.

## **ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

§ 20-107.1 is amended to provide that, when a court orders spousal support, and there are no minor children whom the parties have a mutual duty to support, the order directing the payment of spousal support may exclude all identifying information other than the name of the party when a protection order has been issued or the court otherwise finds reason to believe that a party is at risk of physical or emotional harm from the other party.

# WEST VIRGINIA



## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in January and normally ending in March.  
In the first year of a governor's four-year term, the session normally ends in April.

## **MISCELLANEOUS:**

§§ 48-27A-1 through 48-27A-3 are added to establish a domestic violence fatality review team; to require that other agencies of government cooperate; and to specify that the team may not take any action which impairs the ability of the prosecutor or any law enforcement officer to perform their statutory duties.



# WYOMING

## **LEGISLATURE MEETS:**

Annually, starting in February and running for 20 calendar days in even-numbered years. In odd-numbered years, sessions start in January and run for 40 calendar days.

## **DEFINITIONS:**

§ 35-21-102 is amended to expand the definition of domestic abuse to include placing a household member in reasonable fear of imminent physical harm and causing a household member to engage involuntarily in sexual activity by force, threat of force, or duress. The section is further amended by specifying that the domestic abuse does not include acts of self-defense.

## **ORDERS FOR PROTECTION:**

§ 35-21-103 is amended to provide that a court may require the respondent to pay costs and fees incurred in bringing a petition for an order of protection, including reasonable attorney fees whether the attorney is court appointed or retained by petitioner.

## STATE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COALITIONS

### **Alabama Coalition Against Domestic Violence**

P.O. Box 4762  
Montgomery, Alabama 36101  
Phone: (334) 832-4842  
Hotline: (800) 650-6522  
Fax: (334) 832-4803  
Email: acadv@acadv.org  
Website: www.acadv.org

### **Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault**

130 Seward St., Ste. 209  
Juneau, Alaska 99801  
Phone: (907) 586-3650  
Fax: (907) 463-4493  
Email: info@andvsa.org  
Website: www.andvsa.org

### **Arizona Coalition Against Domestic Violence**

100 West Camelback Road, Ste. 109  
Phoenix, Arizona 85103  
Phone: (602) 279-2900  
Crisis Line: (800) 782-6400  
Fax: (602) 279-2980  
Email: acadv@goodnet.com  
Website: www.azacadv.org

### **Arkansas Coalition Against Domestic Violence**

1401 West Capitol, Ste. 170  
North Little Rock, Arkansas 72201  
Phone: (501) 907-5612  
Fax: (501) 907-5618  
Email: acadv@www.cji.net  
Website:  
www.law-enforcement.org/acadv

### **California Alliance Against Domestic Violence**

926 J St., Ste. 1000  
Sacramento, California 95814  
Phone: (916) 444-7163  
Hotline: (800) 524-4765  
Fax: (916) 444-7165  
Email: caadv@cwo.com  
Website: www.caadv.org

### **Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence**

P.O. Box 18902  
Denver, Colorado 80218  
Phone: (303) 831-9632  
Hotline: (888) 778-7091  
Fax: (303) 832-7067  
Email: ccadv@ccadv.org  
Website: www.ccadv.org

### **Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence**

106 Pitkin Street  
East Hartford, Connecticut 06108  
Phone: (860) 282-7899  
Hotline: (888) 774-2900  
Fax: (860) 282-7892  
Email: info@ctcadv.org  
Website: www.ctcadv.org

### **Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence**

100 West 10th St., Ste. 703  
Wilmington, Delaware 19801  
Phone: (302) 658-2958  
Fax: (302) 658-5049  
Email: dcadv@dcadv.org  
Website: www.dcadv.org

## STATE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COALITIONS

### **District of Columbia Coalition Against Domestic Violence**

1718 P St., NW, Ste. T-6  
Washington, DC 20036  
Phone: (202) 299-1181  
Fax: (202) 299-1193  
Email: dccadv@aol.com  
Website: www.dccadv.org

### **Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence**

425 Office Plaza Drive  
Tallahassee, Florida 32301  
Phone: (850) 425-2749  
Hotline: (800) 500-1119  
TDD: (800) 621-4202  
Fax: (850) 425-3091  
Email: hannah\_katherine@fcadv.org  
Website: www.fcadv.org

### **Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence**

3420 Norman Berry Drive, Ste. 280  
Atlanta, Georgia 30354  
Phone: (404) 209-0280  
Hotline: (800) 33-HAVEN  
Fax: (404) 766-3800  
Email: gcoalition@mindspring.com  
Website: www.gcadv.org

### **Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence**

98-939 Moanalua Road  
Aiea, Hawaii 96701-5012  
Phone: (808) 486-5072  
Fax: (808) 486-5169

### **Hawaii State Committee on Family Violence**

2500 Pali Highway  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817  
Phone: (808) 595-3900

### **Idaho Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence**

815 Park Blvd., #140  
Boise, Idaho 83712  
Phone: (208) 384-0419  
Hotline: (888) 293-6118  
Fax: (208) 331-0687  
Email: domvio@mindspring.com

### **Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence**

801 South 11th Street  
Springfield, Illinois 62703  
Phone: (217) 789-2830  
or (800) 787-3224  
Hotline: (800) 799-7233  
TTY: (217) 241-0376  
Fax: (217) 789-1939  
Email: ilocadv@ilcadv.org  
Email—ICADV Training Institute:  
training@ilcadv.org  
Email—ICADV Legal Research  
Institute: legal@ilcadv.org  
Website: www.ilcadv.org

## STATE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COALITIONS

### **Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence**

1915 W. 18th Street  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46202  
Phone: (317) 917-3685  
or (800) 538-3393  
Hotline: (800) 332-7385  
Fax: (317) 917-3695  
Email: [icadv@violenceresource.org](mailto:icadv@violenceresource.org)  
Website: [www.violenceresource.org](http://www.violenceresource.org)

### **Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence**

2603 Bell Ave., Ste. 100  
Des Moines, Iowa 50321  
Phone: (515) 244-8028  
Hotline: (800) 942-0333  
TTY: (800) 942-0333  
Fax: (515) 244-7417  
Email: [info@icadv.org](mailto:info@icadv.org)  
Website: [www.icadv.org](http://www.icadv.org)

### **Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence**

220 SW 33rd St., Ste. 100  
Topeka, Kansas 66611  
Phone: (785) 232-9784  
Hotline: (888) 363-2287  
Fax: (785) 266-1874  
Email: [kcsdv@coalition.org](mailto:kcsdv@coalition.org)  
Website: [www.kcsdv.org](http://www.kcsdv.org)

### **Kentucky Domestic Violence Association**

P.O. Box 356  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40602-0356  
Phone: (502) 695-2444  
Hotline: (800) 799-7233  
TDD: (800) 787-3224  
Fax: (502) 695-2488  
Email: [kdvasac@aol.com](mailto:kdvasac@aol.com)  
Website: [www.kdva.org](http://www.kdva.org)

### **Louisiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence**

P.O. Box 77308  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70879-7308  
Phone: (225) 752-1296  
Hotline: (888) 411-1333  
Fax: (225) 751-8927  
Email: [pmlcadv@aol.com](mailto:pmlcadv@aol.com)  
Website: [www.lcadv.org](http://www.lcadv.org)

### **Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence**

170 Park Street  
Bangor, Maine 04401  
Phone: (207) 941-1194  
Hotline: (800) 799-7233  
Fax: (297) 941-2327  
Email: [info@mcedv.org](mailto:info@mcedv.org)  
Website: [www.mcedv.org](http://www.mcedv.org)

### **Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence**

6911 Laurel Bowie Rd., Ste. 309  
Bowie, Maryland 20715  
Phone: (301) 352-4574  
Hotline: (800) MD-HELPS  
Fax: (301) 809-0422  
Email: [mnadv@aol.com](mailto:mnadv@aol.com)  
Website: [www.mnadv.org](http://www.mnadv.org)

### **Massachusetts Coalition Against Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence**

14 Beacon St., Ste. 507  
Boston, Massachusetts 02108  
Phone: (617) 248-0922  
Fax: (617) 248-0902  
TTY/TTD: (617) 263-2200  
Email: [info@janedoe.org](mailto:info@janedoe.org)  
Website: [www.janedoe.org](http://www.janedoe.org)

## STATE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COALITIONS

### **Michigan Coalition Against Domestic Violence**

3893 Okemos Rd., Ste. B-2  
Okemos, Michigan 48864  
Phone: (517) 347-7000  
TTY: (517) 381-8470  
Fax: (517) 347-1377  
Email: general@mcadsv.org  
Website: www.mcadsv.org

### **Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women**

1821 University Avenue West,  
Ste. S-112  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55104  
Phone/TDD: (651) 646-6177  
Crisis Line: (651) 646-0994  
or (800) 289-6177  
Fax: (651) 646-1527  
Email: mcbw@mcbw.org  
Website: www.mcbw.org

### **Mississippi Coalition Against Domestic Violence**

P.O. Box 4703  
Jackson, Mississippi 39296  
Phone: (601) 981-9196  
Hotline: (800) 898-3234  
Fax: (601) 981-2501  
Email: dvabuse@bellsouth.net  
Website: www.mcadv.org

### **Missouri Coalition Against Domestic Violence**

415 E. McCarty  
Jefferson, City, Missouri 65101  
Phone: (573) 634-4161  
Fax: (573) 636-3728  
Email: mcadv@sockets.net  
Website: www.mocadv.org

### **Montana Coalition Against Domestic Violence**

P.O. Box 633  
Helena, Montana 59624  
Phone: (406) 443-7794  
Fax: (406) 443-7818  
Email: mcadsv@mt.net  
Website: www.mcadsv.com

### **Nebraska Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Coalition**

825 M St., Ste. 404  
Lincoln, Nebraska 68508  
Phone: (402) 476-6256  
Hotline: (800) 876-6238  
Fax: (402) 476-6806  
Email: info@ndvsac.org  
Website: www.ndvsac.org

### **Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence**

100 Grove St., Ste. 315  
Reno, Nevada 89509  
Phone: (775) 828-1115  
Hotline: (800) 500-1556  
Fax: (775) 828-9911  
Email: nnadv@power.net  
Website: www.nnadv.com

### **New Hampshire Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence**

P.O. Box 353  
Concord, New Hampshire 03302  
Phone: (603) 224-8893  
Hotline: (866) 644-3574  
Fax: (603) 228-6096  
Email: heath@nhcadsv.org  
Website: www.nhcadv.org

## STATE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COALITIONS

### **New Jersey Coalition**

#### **For Battered Women**

1670 Whitehorse-Hamilton Sq. Rd.  
Trenton, New Jersey 08690-3541  
Phone: (609) 584-8107  
TTY: (609) 584-0027  
Fax: (609) 584-9750  
Email: info@njcbw.org  
Website: www.njcbw.org

### **New Mexico Coalition Against Domestic Violence**

200 Oak NE, Ste. 4  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87106  
Phone: (505) 246-9240  
Hotline: (800) 773-3645  
Fax: (505) 246-9434  
Email: agnesm@nmcadv.org  
Website: www.nmcadv.org

### **New York State Coalition Against Domestic Violence**

79 Central Avenue  
Albany, New York 12206  
Phone: (518) 432-4864  
Hotline: (800) 942-6906 (English)  
(800) 942-6908 (Spanish)  
Fax: (518) 463-3155  
Email: info@nyscadv.org  
Website: www.nyscadv.org

### **North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence**

115 Market St., Ste. 400  
Durham, North Carolina 27701  
Phone: (919) 956-9124  
Hotline: (888) 232-9124  
Fax: (919) 682-1449  
Email: gkling@nccadv.org  
Website: www.nccadv.org

### **North Dakota Council on Abused Women's Services**

418 East Rosser Ave., Ste. 320  
Bismarck, North Dakota 58501  
Phone: (701) 255-6240  
Toll Free: (888) 255-6240  
Fax: (701) 255-1904  
Email: ndcaws@ndcaws.org

### **Ohio Domestic Violence Network**

4041 North High St., Ste. 400  
Columbus, Ohio 43214  
Phone: (614) 784-0023  
Hotline: (800) 934-9840  
TTY: (614) 784-0628  
Fax: (614) 784-0033  
Email: todvn@ee.net  
Website: www.ohiodvnetwork.org

### **Action Ohio Coalition for Battered Women**

36 W. Gay St., Ste. 311  
P.O. Box 15673  
Columbus, Ohio 43215-0673  
Phone: (614) 221-1255  
Fax: (614) 221-6357  
Email: actionoh@ee.net

### **Oklahoma Coalition on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault**

2525 NW Expressway, Ste. 101  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73112  
Phone: (405) 848-1815  
Hotline: (800) 522-7233  
Fax: (405) 848-3469  
Email: marcia@ocadvsa.org  
Website: www.ocadvsa.org

## STATE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COALITIONS

### **Oregon Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence**

115 Mission St., Ste. 100  
Salem, Oregon 97302  
Phone: (503) 365-9644  
Hotline: (888) 235-5333  
Fax: (503) 566-7870  
Email: info@ocadsv.com  
Website: www.ocadsa.org

### **Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence**

6400 Flank Drive, Ste. 1300  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17112

#### **Main Office**

PA Only: (800) 932-4632  
National: (800) 537-2238  
TTY: (800) 553-2508  
Fax: (717) 671-8149

#### **Legal Office**

PA Only: (888) 23-LEGAL  
National: (800) 903-0111 ext. 2  
Fax: (717) 671-5542  
Email: operations@pacdv.org  
Website: www.pcadv.org

### **Comision Para Los Asuntos De La Mujer Puerto Rico**

P.O. Box 11382 Fernancez Juncos Station  
San Juan, Puerto Rico 00910  
Phone: (787) 722-2907  
Hotline: (877) 722-2977  
Fax: (787) 723-3611  
Email: comision@mujer.prstar.net

### **Rhode Island Council Against Domestic Violence**

422 Post Road, Ste. 202  
Warwick, Rhode Island 02888-1524  
Phone: (401) 467-9940  
Helpline: (800) 494-8100  
Fax: (401) 467-9943  
Email: ricadv@ricadv.org  
Website: www.ricadv.org

### **South Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault**

1320 Richland Street  
P.O. Box 7776  
Columbia, South Carolina 29202  
Phone: (803) 256-2900  
Toll Free: (800) 260-9293  
Fax: (803) 256-1030  
Email: cmensack@sccadvasa.org  
Website: www.sccadvasa.org

### **South Dakota Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault**

P.O. Box 141  
Pierre, South Dakota 57501  
Phone: (605) 945-0869  
Hotline: (800) 430-7233  
Fax: (605) 945-0870  
Email: sdcadv@rapidnet.com  
Website:  
www.southdakotacoalition.org

## STATE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COALITIONS

### **Tennessee Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Violence**

P.O. Box 120972  
Nashville, Tennessee 37212  
Phone: (615) 386-9406  
Toll Free: (800) 289-9018  
Fax: (615) 383-2967  
Email: tcadsv@bellsouth.net  
Website: www.tcadsv.citysearch.com

### **Texas Council on Family Violence**

P.O. Box 161810  
Austin, Texas 78716  
Phone: (512) 794-1133  
Hotline: (800) 799-7233  
TTY: (800) 787-3224  
Fax: (512) 794-1199  
Website: www.tcfv.org

### **Utah Domestic Violence Advisory Council**

120 North 200 West, #319  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84103  
Phone: (801) 538-4635  
Hotline: (800) 897-5465  
Fax: (801) 538-4016  
Email: jbell@hsadmini.state.ut.us  
Website: www.udvac.state.ut.us

### **Vermont Network Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault**

P.O. Box 405  
Montpelier, Vermont 05601  
Phone: (802) 223-1302  
Hotline: (800) 228-7395  
TTY: (802) 223-1115  
Fax: (802) 223-6943  
Email: vtnetwork@vtnetwork.org  
Website: www.vtnetwork.org

### **Virginians Against Domestic Violence**

2850 Sandy Bay Road, Ste. 101  
Williamsburg, Virginia 23185  
Phone: (757) 221-0990  
Hotline: (800) 838-8238  
Fax: (757) 229-1553  
Email: vadv@tni.net  
Website: www.vadv.org

### **Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence**

101 North Capitol Way, Ste. 302  
Olympia, Washington 98501  
Phone: (360) 586-1022  
TTY: (360) 585-1029  
Fax: (360) 586-1024  
Email: wscadv@wscadv.org  
Website: www.wscadv.org

1402—3rd Avenue, Ste. 406  
Seattle, Washington 98101  
Phone: (206) 389-2515  
TTY: (206) 389-2900  
Fax: (206) 389-2520  
Email: wscadv@wscadv.org  
Website: www.wscadv.org

### **West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence**

4710 Chimney Drive, Ste. A  
Charleston, West Virginia 25302  
Phone: (304) 965-3552  
Hotline: (800) 799-7233  
Fax: (304) 965-3572  
Email: office@wvcadv.org  
Website: www.wvcadv.org

## STATE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COALITIONS

### **Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence**

307 S. Patterson, Ste. 1  
Madison, Wisconsin 53703  
Phone: (608) 255-0539  
Fax: (608) 255-3560  
Email: [wcadv@wcadv.org](mailto:wcadv@wcadv.org)

### **Wyoming Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault**

409 South 4th Street  
Laramie, Wyoming 82073  
Phone: (307) 755-5481  
Toll Free: (800) 990-3877  
Legal Project: (307) 755-0992  
Fax: (307) 755-5482  
Email:  
[wyoingcoalition@qwest.net](mailto:wyoingcoalition@qwest.net)  
Website: [www.users.qwest.net/  
~wyoingcoalition/index/htm](http://www.users.qwest.net/~wyoingcoalition/index/htm)

### **Women's Resource Center Virgin Islands**

Phone: (809) 776-3966 (Spanish)

### **Women's Coalition of St. Croix**

7 East St.  
Christainsted, Virgin Islands 00822  
Phone: (340) 773-9272  
Fax: (340) 773-9062  
Email: [wscstx@worldnet.att.net](mailto:wscstx@worldnet.att.net)  
Website: [www.wcstx.com](http://www.wcstx.com)

## STATE LEGISLATIVE CONTACTS

### **Alabama Legislative Reference Service**

State House, Room 613  
Montgomery, Alabama 36130  
Phone: (334) 242-7560  
Fax: (334) 242-4358  
Website: [www.legislature.state.al.us](http://www.legislature.state.al.us)

### **Alaska Legislative Information Office**

Division of Administrative Services  
Legislative Affairs Agency  
129 Sixth Street  
State Capitol, Room 3  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182  
Phone: (907) 465-4648  
Fax: (907) 465-2864  
Website: [www.legis.state.ak.us](http://www.legis.state.ak.us)

### **Arizona House Information Desk**

First Floor, House Wing  
State Capitol  
1700 W. Washington  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007  
Phone: (602) 542-4221  
Website: [www.azleg.state.az.us](http://www.azleg.state.az.us)

### **Arizona Senate Information Desk**

First Floor, Senate Wing  
State Capitol  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007  
Phone: (602) 542-3559  
Website: [www.azleg.state.az.us](http://www.azleg.state.az.us)

### **Arkansas Bureau of Legislative Research Legislative Council**

State Capitol, Room 315  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201  
Phone: (501) 682-1937  
Fax: (501) 682-1936  
Website: [www.arkleg.state.ar.us](http://www.arkleg.state.ar.us)

### **California Office of the Chief Clerk of the Assembly**

State Capitol, Room 3196  
Sacramento, California 95814  
Phone: (916) 319-2856  
Website: [www.leginfo.ca.gov](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov)

### **California Office of the Secretary of the Senate**

State Capitol, Room 3044  
Sacramento, California 95814  
Phone: (916) 445-4251  
Website: [www.leginfo.ca.gov](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov)

### **Colorado Legislative Council**

State Capitol, Room 029  
Denver, Colorado 80203  
Phone: (303) 866-3521  
Fax: (303) 866-3855  
Website: [www.state.co.us](http://www.state.co.us)

### **Connecticut Law and Legislative Reference Unit**

State Library  
Room L212, 231 Capitol Avenue  
Hartford, Connecticut 06106  
Phone: (860) 566-4601  
Fax: (860) 566-3322  
Website: [www.cga.state.ct.us](http://www.cga.state.ct.us)

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### **Delaware Division of Research Legislative Council**

Legislative Hall, Ground Floor  
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Dover, Delaware 19903  
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### **District of Columbia Office of the Secretary, Council of the District of Columbia**

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Website:  
[www.dccouncil.washington.dc.us](http://www.dccouncil.washington.dc.us)

### **Florida Division of Library and Information Services, Legislative Library Services**

State Capital, Room 701  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1400  
Phone: (850) 488-2812  
Fax: (850) 488-9879  
Website: [www.leg.state.fl.us](http://www.leg.state.fl.us)

### **Georgia Office of the Clerk of the House of Representatives**

State Capitol, Room 309  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334  
Phone: (404) 656-5015  
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### **Georgia Office of the Secretary of the Senate**

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### **Hawaii Legislative Reference Bureau**

State Capitol, Room 446  
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Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
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### **Idaho Legislative Reference Library**

Legislative Services Office  
State Capitol, Lower Level  
P.O. Box 83720  
Boise, Idaho 83720-0054  
Phone: (208) 334-4822  
Fax: (208) 334-2125  
Website: [www.state.id.us/legislat](http://www.state.id.us/legislat)

### **Illinois Legislative Research Unit**

222 S. College, Ste. 301  
Springfield, Illinois 62704  
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### **Indiana Office of Legislative Information**

State House, Room 230  
200 West Washington  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2789  
(Mailing address use Room 301)  
Phone: (317) 232-9856  
Website: [www.in.gov/legislative](http://www.in.gov/legislative)

### **Iowa Legislative Information Office**

State Capitol, Room 16  
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Website: [www.legis.state.ia.us](http://www.legis.state.ia.us)

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### **Kansas Division of Legislative Administrative Services**

State House, Room 511-S  
300 S. W. Tenth Avenue  
Topeka, Kansas 66612  
Phone: (785) 296-2391  
Fax: (785) 296-1153  
Website: [www.accesskansas.org](http://www.accesskansas.org)

### **Kentucky Legislative Research Commission**

State Capitol, Room 300  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601  
Phone: (502) 564-8100  
Fax: (502) 223-5094  
Website: [www.lrc.state.ky.us](http://www.lrc.state.ky.us)

### **Louisiana State Library**

Louisiana Room  
701 North Fourth Street  
P.O. Box 131  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821  
Phone: (225) 342-4914  
Fax: (225) 342-2791  
Website: [www.legis.state.la.us](http://www.legis.state.la.us)

### **Maine Law and Legislative Reference Library**

State House, Room 202  
43 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333  
Phone: (207) 287-1600  
Fax: (207) 287-6467  
Website: [www.state.me.us/legis](http://www.state.me.us/legis)

### **Maryland Department of Legislative Services**

Information Desk, Library Division  
Legislative Services Building,  
Basement  
90 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
Phone: (410) 946-5400  
Fax: (410) 946-5080  
Website: <http://mlis.state.md.us>

### **Massachusetts Office of the Clerk of the House of Representatives**

State House, Room 145  
Boston, Massachusetts 02133  
Phone: (617) 722-2356  
Website: [www.state.ma.us/legis](http://www.state.ma.us/legis)

### **Massachusetts Office of the Clerk of the Senate**

State House, Room 335  
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Phone: (617) 722-1276  
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### **Michigan Clerk of the House**

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Fax: (517) 373-5930  
Website:  
[www.michiganlegislature.org](http://www.michiganlegislature.org)

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Website:  
[www.michiganlegislature.org](http://www.michiganlegislature.org)

### **Minnesota House Public Information Office**

State Office Building, Room 175  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155  
Phone: (651) 296-2146  
Fax: (651) 297-8135  
Website: [www.leg.state.mn.us](http://www.leg.state.mn.us)

### **Minnesota Senate Information Office**

State Capitol, Room 231  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155  
Phone: (651) 296-0504  
Fax: (651) 296-6511  
Website: [www.leg.state.mn.us](http://www.leg.state.mn.us)

### **Mississippi Clerk of the House**

New Capitol, Room 305  
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Jackson, Mississippi 39215  
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Fax: (601) 359-3728  
Website: [www.ls.state.ms.us](http://www.ls.state.ms.us)

### **Mississippi Secretary of the Senate**

New Capitol, Room 313  
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Jackson, Mississippi 39215  
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Fax: (601) 359-2129  
Website: [www.ls.state.ms.us](http://www.ls.state.ms.us)

### **Missouri Legislative Library, Committee on Legislative Research**

State Capitol, Third Floor  
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101  
Phone: (573) 751-4633  
Website: [www.moga.state.mo.us](http://www.moga.state.mo.us)

### **Montana Legislative Services Division**

State Capitol, Room 110  
P.O. Box 201706  
Helena, Montana 59620-1706  
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Website: <http://leg.state.mt.us>

### **Nebraska Clerk of the Legislature**

State Capitol, Room 2018  
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Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-4604  
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Fax: (402) 471-2126  
Website: [www.unicam.state.ne.us](http://www.unicam.state.ne.us)

### **Nevada Legislative Council Bureau**

Research Library  
Sedway Office Building, First Floor  
333 East Fifth Street  
Carson City, Nevada 89701-4747  
(Mailing address: Legislative Bldg.,  
401 S. Carson Street)  
Phone: (775) 684-6827  
Fax: (775) 684-6420  
Website: [www.leg.state.nv.us](http://www.leg.state.nv.us)

## STATE LEGISLATIVE CONTACTS

### **New Hampshire Reference and Information Services**

New Hampshire State Library  
20 Park Street  
Concord, New Hampshire 03301  
Phone: (603) 271-2239  
Fax: (603) 271-2205  
Website: <http://gencourt.state.nh.us>

### **New Jersey Legislative Information and Bill Room**

State House Annex, Room B01  
P.O. Box 068  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625  
Phone: (609) 292-4840  
Fax: (609) 777-2440  
Website: [www.njleg.state.nj.us](http://www.njleg.state.nj.us)

### **New Mexico Legislative Council Service**

State Capitol, Room 411  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501  
Phone: (505) 986-4600  
Fax: (505) 986-4680  
Website: [www.legis.state.nm.us](http://www.legis.state.nm.us)

### **New York Assembly Public Information Office**

Legislative Office Building,  
Room 202  
Albany, New York 12248  
Phone: (518) 455-4218  
Fax: (518) 455-5175  
Website: <http://assembly.state.ny.us>

### **New York Office of the Secretary of the Senate**

State Capitol, Room 321  
Albany, New York 12247  
Phone: (518) 455-2051  
Fax: (518) 455-3332  
Website: [www.senate.state.ny.us](http://www.senate.state.ny.us)

### **North Carolina Legislative Services Office**

State Legislative Building,  
Room 2129  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27603-5925  
Phone: (919) 733-7044  
Fax: (919) 715-2739  
Website: [www.ncga.state.nc.us](http://www.ncga.state.nc.us)

### **North Dakota Legislative Council**

State Capitol, Second Floor  
600 East Boulevard Avenue  
Bismarck, North Dakota 58505-0360  
Phone: (701) 328-2916  
Fax: (701) 328-3615  
Website: [www.state.nd.us/lr](http://www.state.nd.us/lr)

### **Ohio Legislative Service Commission**

77 S. High Street, Ninth Floor  
Columbus, Ohio 43266-0342  
Phone: (614) 466-3615  
Fax: (614) 644-1721  
Website:  
[www.legislature.state.oh.us](http://www.legislature.state.oh.us)

### **Oklahoma Law and Legislative Reference Division**

Oklahoma Department of Libraries  
State Capitol, Room B-8  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105  
(Mailing address: 200 N.E. 18th  
Street)  
Phone: (405) 522-3212  
Fax: (405) 521-2753  
Website: [www.lsb.state.ok.us](http://www.lsb.state.ok.us)

## STATE LEGISLATIVE CONTACTS

### **Oregon Administrator's Office, Legislative Administration Committee**

State Capitol, Room 140-A  
900 Court Street, N. E.  
Salem, Oregon 97301  
Phone: (503) 986-1848  
Fax: (503) 986-1684  
Website: [www.leg.state.or.us](http://www.leg.state.or.us)

### **Pennsylvania Library, Legislative Reference Bureau**

Main Capitol Bldg., Room 641  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120  
Phone: (717) 787-4816  
Fax: (717) 783-2396  
Website: [www.legis.state.pa.us](http://www.legis.state.pa.us)

### **Puerto Rico Secretary of the House**

The Capitol, Second Floor  
P.O. Box 902228  
San Juan, Puerto Rico 00902-2228  
Phone: (787) 722-2312 (Spanish)

### **Puerto Rico Secretary of the Senate**

The Capitol, Second Floor  
P.O. Box 9023431  
San Juan, Puerto Rico 00902-3431  
Phone: (787) 722-4012 (Spanish)  
Website: [www.senadoprus.org](http://www.senadoprus.org)

### **Puerto Rico MicroJuris**

P.O. Box 9024096  
San Juan, Puerto Rico 00902-4096  
Phone: (787) 724-3889 (English)  
Fax: (787) 723-0672  
Website: [www.microjuris.com](http://www.microjuris.com)

### **Rhode Island Legislative Reference, State Library**

State House, Room 208  
Providence, Rhode Island 02903  
Phone: (401) 222-2473  
Fax: (401) 222-3034  
Website: [www.rilin.state.ri.us](http://www.rilin.state.ri.us)

### **South Carolina Legislative Council**

1000 Assembly Street, Room 434  
P.O. Box 11489  
Columbia, South Carolina 29211  
Phone: (803) 734-2145  
Fax: (803) 734-2425  
Website: [www.scstatehouse.net](http://www.scstatehouse.net)

### **South Dakota Legislative Research Council**

State Capitol, Third Floor  
Pierre, South Dakota 57501-5070  
Phone: (605) 773-3251  
Fax: (605) 773-4576  
Website: <http://legis.state.sd.us>

### **Tennessee Office of Legislative Information Services**

Rachel Jackson Bldg., First Floor  
320 Sixth Avenue North  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243  
Phone: (615) 741-3511  
Website: [www.legislature.state.tn.us](http://www.legislature.state.tn.us)

### **Texas Legislative Reference Library**

State Capitol, Room 2N.3  
P. O. Box 12488  
Austin, Texas 78701-2488  
Phone: (512) 463-1252  
Fax: (512) 475-4626  
Website: [www.capitol.state.tx.us](http://www.capitol.state.tx.us)

## STATE LEGISLATIVE CONTACTS

### **Utah Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel**

State Capitol, Room 436  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114  
Phone: (801) 538-1032  
Fax: (801) 538-1712  
Website: [www.le.state.ut.us](http://www.le.state.ut.us)

### **Vermont Legislative Council**

State House, First Floor Annex  
115 State Street, Drawer 33  
Montpelier, Vermont 05633-5301  
Phone: (802) 828-2231  
Fax: (802) 828-2424  
Website: [www.leg.state.vt.us](http://www.leg.state.vt.us)

### **Virginia Legislative Information Office**

State Capitol, First Floor  
Richmond, Virginia 23219  
Phone: (804) 698-1500  
Fax: (804) 786-3215  
Website: <http://legis.state.va.us>

### **Washington Office of the Clerk of the House**

Legislative Building, Third Floor  
P. O. Box 40600  
Olympia, Washington 98504  
Phone: (360) 786-7750  
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Website: [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

### **Washington Office of the Secretary of the Senate**

Legislative Building, Room 306  
P. O. Box 40482  
Olympia, Washington 98504  
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Website: [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

### **West Virginia Office of Legislative Services**

State Capitol, Room 132-E  
Charleston, West Virginia 25305  
Phone: (304) 347-4800  
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Website: [www.legis.state.wv.us](http://www.legis.state.wv.us)

### **Wisconsin Legislative Reference Bureau**

100 N. Hamilton Street  
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Madison, Wisconsin 53701-2037  
Phone: (608) 266-0341  
Fax: (608) 266-5648  
Website: [www.legis.state.wi.us](http://www.legis.state.wi.us)

### **Wyoming Legislative Service Office**

State Capitol, Room 213  
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